



# Little Phoenix



The Newsletter of Yarm Pre-Prep

Number 306

16th October 2020

Mrs Speight's message ...

Happy half term! I was discussing the newsletter with some children in after school care on Wednesday evening and they advised me to write about Halloween, number bonds to twenty and the fiction book, 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. If you haven't already read it, I'd get a copy, it's a lovely, humorous story and one which the children have thoroughly enjoyed. Reading always gives me great pleasure and I had the joy of reading Pumpkin Soup to every single child from Nursery to Year 2. I wonder whether they will remember the holiday homework I set? The suggestion I made was to make some delicious pumpkin soup with you. Our themed day was a great success and we had an array of characters including skeletons, cats and witches. The flying school was enjoyed by all and our Nursery children loved learning Incy Wincy Spider during their music lesson. Have a wonderful break and stay safe. I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 2nd November when we return.

Warmest wishes, *Jeanne Speight*

 Follow me on twitter: @YarmPrePrep



## Halloween Fun

The Nursery children have had a 'spooktacular' Halloween week! They have participated in a range of activities including decorating a pumpkin, scooping out the inside of a pumpkin and of course, they loved getting dressed up. We hope you all have a good half term, whatever your plans may be.



## Spooktacular Celebrations

Myths, magic and monsters made the perfect recipe for a spooktacular week for the Reception children as they prepared to celebrate Halloween. As well as hosting a spellbinding fashion show, the children enjoyed exploring pumpkins, casting spells and mixing their own potions before enjoying a BOOgie on the dancefloor at our Halloween disco.



## Happy Halloween from Year 1

The children in Year 1 have had a spook-tacular time. The classrooms have been busy with everyone creating lots of wonderful themed crafts; from paper plate Halloween characters to designing our own pumpkins. Thursday's Halloween day was a highlight for us all! Have a wonderful half term everyone.



## Halloween

There has been one word on everybody's lips in Year 2 - Halloween. We have counted down sleeps, created ghoulish decorations and Mrs Speight even visited to read one of her favourite stories, "Pumpkin Soup." On Thursday, the costumes were splendid, Wendy provided delicious snacks and who knew Mrs Barton is an aspiring DJ? At the end of a long half term, we are all exhausted but agree that we have thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, made friends and learned many new skills along the way. Happy half term holiday!











### **After School Care Pick Up**

When arriving to collect your child from After School Care please ring the bell and state your child's name/s and their form which will assist the staff members on duty. Thank you for your support.

### **Nursery & Reception collection time**

Please note after Half Term, Nursery & Reception children will finish at 3.15pm.

Please collect your child/ren at this time from the usual area. After School Care will remain as normal.

Many thanks for your continued cooperation.

### **New Uniform**

The long awaited kilts have finally been delivered and will be sent up to Pre-Prep soon.

Unfortunately, some of the kilts lengths were not available so we have substituted these with a slightly longer length. However, these kilts will take the usual delivery time of 8-12 weeks.

Apologies, we are still waiting for a small delivery of tunics.

### **2020/2021 Term Dates**

#### **Autumn Term, 2020**

Pupils return - Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

Finish - Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 (after school)

#### **Spring Term, 2021**

Pupils return - Monday, 4th January 2021

½ term begins - Thursday, 11th February 2021  
(after school)

Pupils return - Monday, 22nd February 2021

Finish - Friday, 26th March 2021 (after school)

#### **Summer Term, 2021**

Pupils return - Thursday, 15th April 2021

Bank Holiday - Monday, 3rd May 2021

½ term begins - Thursday, 27th May 2021 (after school)

Pupils return - Monday, 7th June 2021

Finish - Friday, 2nd July 2021 (12 noon)

Following on from a very successful parent talk in January of this year, the School is delighted to announce a further talk for parents by one of the UK's leading experts on parental engagement in children's lives and learning. Dr Kathy Weston is a published author, writer, award winning radio broadcaster and a regular speaker at educational events across the UK. In this live webinar Dr Weston will look at a range of factors that contribute to family resilience and how to help our children navigate some of the challenging circumstances they face. Her advice is backed up by extensive research but is delivered in an informative and engaging manner. In essence, it will provide simple, clear advice to help your children flourish in school and life. If you are interested in attending, you can find out more below or register for the event here: <http://bit.ly/DrKathyWeston> (Please note that a charge of £3 will be added to your termly extras bill as a contribution towards the cost of the session).

*Mr Sawyer*



Click [here](#) to register in advance for the webinar.

In this live webinar, Dr Kathy Weston will give evidence-based tips on how to think about family resilience during challenging times, such as ongoing COVID-19 Crisis.

Dr Weston will look at factors that contribute to family resilience and practical steps that parents can take to help children become emotionally resilient. She discusses the relationship between resilience and academic achievement in general and touches upon the issue of digital resilience. She will talk about how to build positive self-esteem and how to give your child the tools they need to cope with failure.

She will discuss topics such as parental and child anxiety, adaptive strategies for coping, how best to manage the transition back to school after long periods of home learning and how thinking 'outside the box' can help children thrive at the current time.

Dr Weston will use the recent evidence-based tips, to give you the tools you need to support your family.

Places will be allocated strictly in order of registration so be sure to register now to save your space.

For more information about Dr Weston please visit her website [here](#).